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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of )

Wolfgang Günter RUCKMANN )  
Horst Bernhard MICHALIK )

) Art Unit: 3653

Application No. : 09/926,177 )

Filed : January 7, 2002 )

For : LONGITUDINAL FOLDING DEVICE )

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APR 22 2002

GROUP 3600

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified patent application, as filed, as follows

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification of the application, as set forth in the verified translation of the German language text of PCT/DE00/00847, filed March 18, 2000; published as WO 00/56651 on September 28, 2000; and claiming priority to DE 199 12 290.3 filed March 19, 1999 and DE 199 50 942.5 filed October 22, 1999, the verified translation forming the specification of the application, as follows. Please cancel the specification of the application, as filed, in favor of the concurrently filed Substitute Specification. The substitute specification includes suitable section headings, deletes references to claims, includes the discussion of a prior art reference, as was done in the PCT application, and eliminates the parts list. A marked-up copy of the verified